COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294 (323) 881-2401

DARYL L. OSBY FIRE CHIEF FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

January 21, 2016

TO: EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM: DARYL L. OSBY, FIRE CHIEF

CYNTHIA A. HARDING, M.P.H. Cynthia A. Hardiy

ALISO CANYON NATURAL GAS LEAK UNIFIED COMMAND

The purpose of this communique is to inform your Honorable Board that effective January 22, 2016 at 12:00 p.m., the Fire Department, Department of Public Health and Southern California Gas Company will enter into Unified Command. Unified Command is a team effort process, allowing all agencies with geographical or functional responsibility for an incident, to assign an Incident Commander to the Unified Command organization. In addition to the three agencies leading this effort, it will allow us to more comprehensively work and communicate effectively with the State agencies involved.

The Unified Command organization is responsible for establishing a common set of incident objectives and strategies that all unified partners can subscribe to. This is accomplished without losing or giving up agency authority, responsibility or accountability. The County will benefit as a result of each agency being fully aware of the plans, actions and constraints of other unified partners; improved Information flow and coordination among all unified partners; and increased efficiencies resulting from the optimization of unified operational capacities.

Additional advantages of Unified Command are as follows:

- A collective approach is made to developing strategies to achieve incident objectives
- All unified partners have an understanding of one another's priorities and restrictions
- No agency's authority or legal requirements are compromised or neglected
- Unified partners speak as 'one voice' as information flow is received, coordinated and disseminated jointly

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

DLO: fv

c: Sachi Hamai

Jim Jones

David Howard

Jeff Reeb

Leslie Luke

Ben Polk

Derric Johnson

Maria Castillo-Chong

Rick Velasquez

Sussy Nemer